awareness programmes and water management & training programmes, demonstrative recharge projects, institution of a National Water Award and Bhoomijal Samvardhan Puraskars, holding of meeting of the 'Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Gouncil, organization of National Congress on Ground Water, Farmers Participatory Action Research Programmes (FPARP), release of Postage Stamp on the subject of Water, participation in festivals, fair and mass awareness programmes etc..

(c) and (d) The subject of water quality is already included in Chapter 9 — Environment and Climate Change of Eleventh Plan Document (Volume I), which was discussed in the 54th Meeting of the National Development Council.

Drinking water for urban and rural areas

3840. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any study on the requirement of water for household purpose including drinking water in urban and rural areas of the country in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the quantity of water available at present and the future requirements;

(c) whether it is forecasted that huge water scarcity will grip the country in future both in the urban areas and rural areas; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard during the last three years and proposed to be taken in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development have informed that the Ministry of Urban Development has not initiated any study on the requirement of water for household purpose including drinking water in urban and rural areas of the country. However, the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan (NCIWRDP) in its report has projected the estimates of total annual water requirements for various scenarios. As per the report of NCIWRDP, the total annual water requirement for the year 2050 for domestic and municipal use have been worked out to be 90 billion cubic metre (BCM) in low demand scenario and 111 BCM in high demand scenario.

(c) and (d) The averge annual precipitation is estimated as 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. After accounting for the natural process of evaporation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM which comprises of 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM replenishable ground water resources. 629 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes.

With a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. Storage capacity of about 225 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 64 BCM. Further, the State Governments have identified various other

schemes for investigation and planning and the estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM. State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium and minor schemes (both surface and ground water) for utilization of water resources. Government of India is providing central assistance to the State Governments through various schemes/programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture etc. The Ministry of Water Resources encourages conservation of water including measures such as traditional water conservation practices, rainwater harvesting and recharge to ground water and adoption of better mangement practices. In order to improve the urban drinking water supply services in the country. Ministry of Urban Development has initiated a reforms - linked programme called Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) under which additional central assistance is made available to 63 selected cities. JNNURM is initiated to encourage reforms for sustainability and fast track planned development including renewal of existing drinking water supply systems and execution of new schemes for drinking water supply so as to mitigate shortages and inequitable distribution of water supply in urban areas.

A similar programme called Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) has also been launched by the Government of India along with JNNURM, for the improvement of water supply services in small and medium towns and cities not covered under JNNURM.

Capacity of irrigation projects

†3841. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present irrigation projects in the country and their irrigation capacity;

(b) whether it is a fact that water does not reach to the last end of canal in many irrigated areas; and

(c) if so, the arrangements being made to ensure that water reaches to the last of canal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution and priority of taking up of irrigation projects is within the purview of the State Governments. As per an assessment, at the beginning of XI Plan, there are 442 major and 1229 medium projects in the country of which, 260 major and 956 medium projects are reportedly completed.

Creation of irrigation potential of about 102.7 million hectares through various major, medium and minor irrigation projects implemented by the respective State Governments has been reported upto 31st March, 2007, out of which about 87.2 million hectares is reported as utilised.

The gap between the irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized is mainly due to non-completion of field channels and lack of on-farm development leading to inefficient use of the available water in the canal network and poor operation and maintenance.

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.